

Amendments to Claims

Please cancel claims 1-67, without prejudice, and add new claims 68-79, as follows:

1-67 (Canceled).

68. (New) A surgical drain system for draining fluid and detecting spectral energy from a tissue area of a patient's body comprising:

- a) a surgical drain configured to be implanted in a patient's body, to rest against the surface of at least one tissue in the patient's body, to house at least one sensing element and at least one transmitting element, and to drain fluid from the vicinity of the tissue, wherein the surgical drain is not configured to penetrate the tissue, comprising:
 - i) a first outer surface and a second outer surface different from the first outer surface;
 - ii) a first transmitting element integrated with the first outer surface and configured to deliver energy to a first tissue area proximate to the first outer surface; and
 - iii) a first sensing element integrated with the first outer surface, configured to detect spectral energy emitted from the first tissue area that is derived from the delivered energy;

- b) a tube in fluid communication with the surgical drain configured to transport the drained fluid out of the body.
- c) a processor in communication with the first sensing element, configured to determine a first color that is representative of the detected spectral energy; and
- d) a display configured to depict the first color.

69. (New) The system of claim 68, wherein the surgical drain further comprises a second transmitting element integrated with the second outer surface and configured to deliver energy to a second tissue area proximate to the second outer surface which is different from the first tissue area, and a second sensing element integrated with the second outer surface configured to detect spectral energy emitted from the second tissue area that is derived from the delivered energy, wherein the processor is configured to communicate with the second sensing element to determine a second color representative of the second tissue area and to display the second color.

70. (New) The system of claim 69, wherein the processor is configured to compare a difference between the spectral energy detected by the first and the second sensing elements.

71. (New) The system of claim 68, wherein the first sensing element and the first transmitting element are embedded within the surgical drain behind optically

transparent material.

72. (New) The system of claim 68, wherein the surgical drain includes a drain portion configured to rest against a substantial length of the tissue and comprises a plurality of drain holes spaced along substantially the entire length of the drain portion.

73. (New) The system of claim 68, wherein the surgical drain further includes at least one optical fiber.

74. (New) A surgical drain system for draining fluid and detecting spectral energy from a tissue area of a patient's body comprising:

- e) a surgical drain configured to be implanted in a patient's body, to rest against the surface of at least one tissue in the patient's body, to house at least one sensing element and at least one transmitting element, and to drain fluid from the vicinity of the tissue, wherein the surgical drain is not configured to penetrate the tissue comprising:
 - i) a first outer surface and a second outer surface different from the first outer surface;
 - ii) a transmitting element integrated with the first outer surface and configured to deliver energy to a first tissue area proximate to the first outer surface; and

- iii) a first sensing element integrated with the first outer surface, configured to detect spectral energy emitted from the first tissue area, wherein the emitted spectral energy is derived from the delivered energy;
- f) a tube in fluid communication with the surgical drain configured to transport the drained fluid out of the body;
- g) a processor in communication with the first sensing element is configured to determine a first numerical color value representative of the detected spectral energy; and
- h) a display configured to depict the first numerical color value.

75. (New) The system of claim 74, wherein the surgical drain further comprises a second transmitting element integrated with the second outer surface and configured to deliver energy to a second tissue area proximate to the second outer surface which is different from the first tissue area, and a second sensing element integrated to the second outer surface configured to detect spectral energy emitted from the second tissue area that is derived from the delivered energy, wherein the processor is configured to communicate with the second sensing element to determine a second numerical color value representative of the second tissue area and to display the second numerical color value.

76. (New) The system of claim 75, wherein the processor is configured to compare a difference between the spectral energy detected by the first and the second sensing elements.

77. (New) The system of claim 74, wherein the first sensing element and the first transmitting element are embedded within the surgical drain behind optically transparent material.

78. (New) The system of claim 74, wherein the surgical drain includes a drain portion configured to rest against a substantial length of the tissue and comprises a plurality of drain holes spaced along substantially the entire length of the drain portion.

79. (New) The system of claim 74, wherein the surgical drain further comprises at least one optical fiber.